

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. (Currently Amended): A high density porous composition comprising:
up to about 100% by weight silica wherein the silica comprises from about 50% to about 100% by weight cristobalite; ~~and~~
up to about 60% by weight alumina; and
an additional metal oxide;
wherein the composition has a density of at least about 12 pounds per cubic foot, a mean pore diameter of about 50 microns to about 600 microns, at least about 50% of the exposed surface area is silicon dioxide, said surface modified by a chemical reaction to increase its hydrophilicity or hydrophobicity.
2. (Canceled).
3. (Canceled).
4. (Original): The composition of claim 1, further comprising tantalum oxide or zirconium oxide.
5. (Original): The composition of claim 1, further comprising carbon fiber.
6. (Original): The composition of claim 1, further comprising a drug.
7. (Original): The composition of claim 1, further comprising silica gel.
8. (Previously Presented): The composition of claim 1, wherein the density is at least about 24 pounds per cubic foot (128 kg/m³).

9. (Previously Presented): The composition of claim 1, wherein the density is at least about 48 pounds per cubic foot (192 kg/m³).

10. (Original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the density is at least about 36 pounds per cubic foot (577 kg/m³).

11. (Original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the density is at least about 64 pounds per cubic foot (1025 kg/m³).

12. – 23. (Canceled):

24. (Original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the exposed surface is at least about 75% silicon dioxide.

25. (Original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the exposed surface is at least about 95% silicon dioxide.

26. (Canceled).

27. (New): A high density porous composition comprising:
up to about 100% by weight silica wherein the silica comprises from about 50% to about 100% by weight cristobalite;
up to about 60% by weight alumina; and
a silica gel;
wherein the composition has a density of at least about 12 pounds per cubic foot, a mean pore diameter of about 50 microns to about 600 microns, at least about 50% of the exposed surface area is silicon dioxide, said surface modified by a chemical reaction to increase its hydrophilicity or hydrophobicity.

28. (New): The composition of claim 27, further comprising an additional metal oxide.

29. (New): The composition of claim 27, further comprising tantalum oxide or zirconium oxide.

30. (New): The composition of claim 27, further comprising carbon fiber.

31. (New): The composition of claim 27, further comprising a drug.

32. (New): The composition of claim 27, wherein the density is at least about 24 pounds per cubic foot (128 kg/m³).

33. (New): The composition of claim 27, wherein the density is at least about 48 pounds per cubic foot (192 kg/m³).

34. (New): The composition of claim 27, wherein the density is at least about 36 pounds per cubic foot (577 kg/m³).

35. (New): The composition of claim 27, wherein the density is at least about 64 pounds per cubic foot (1025 kg/m³).

36. (New): The composition of claim 27, wherein the exposed surface is at least about 75% silicon dioxide.

37. (New): The composition of claim 27, wherein the exposed surface is at least about 95% silicon dioxide.

38. (New): The composition of claim 7, wherein the silica gel reinforces the composition.

39. (New): The composition of Claim 27, wherein the silica gel reinforces the composition.

40. (New): The composition of Claim 1, wherein the chemical reaction to increase the hydrophilicity or hydrophobicity of the surface area comprises reaction with a hydroxide.

41. (New): The composition of Claim 27, wherein the chemical reaction to increase the hydrophilicity or hydrophobicity of the surface area comprises reaction with a hydroxide.